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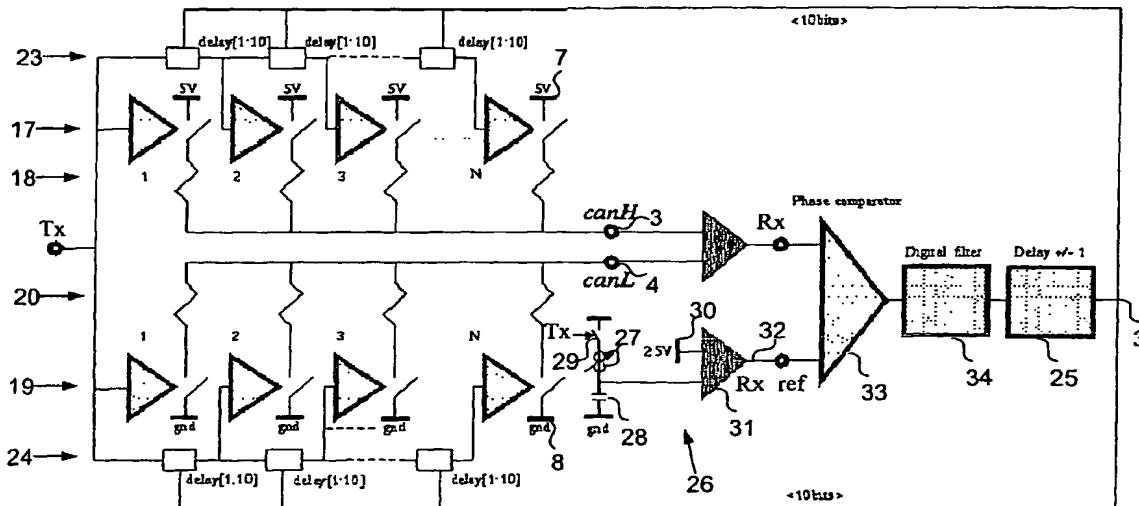
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(54) Title: COMMUNICATION APPARATUS INCLUDING DRIVER MEANS FOR APPLYING A SWITCHED SIGNAL TO A COMMUNICATION LINE WITH A CONTROLLED SLEW RATE



**(57) Abstract:** A communication node including drivers (5,6) for applying a switched signal to a communication line (3,4) such as a CAN bus or a LIN bus, with a controlled slew rate. The driver (5,6) comprises a series of transfer elements (18,20) and a series of delay elements (17,19) for cumulatively establishing operational connections of the transfer elements with the communication line, whereby to apply the switched signal progressively to the communication line. A feedback loop (25,26) is responsive to the signal that the driver (5,6) applied to the communication line (3,4) for controlling the delays of the delay elements (23,24) so as to control the delays with which the operational connections of the transfer elements (18,20) with the communication line are established.

WO 2004/004259 A1